**Integrating Technology Tools to Meet Gifted Students' Needs**

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http://gttechtools.wikispaces.com/

Live Feedback (Participation)

* Poll Everywhere (<http://www.polleverywhere.com>)
  + Create your own poll for audience members to respond via text or web, watch live results, different chart choices for output
  + Free account – 30 responses
  + Free K-12 account – 40 responses
  + No downloads – all online
  + Registration required
* Today’s Meet (<http://todaysmeet.com/>)
  + Create your own chat room for a live or ongoing discussion via the web
  + Copy the text from the discussion into a document to save for future reference
  + No downloads
  + No registration required

Collaborative Tools

* Google Docs (<http://www.google.com/>)
  + Create documents, presentations, spreadsheets, and forms that multiple users may edit simultaneously
  + Import docs (etc.) to make accessible to multiple users
  + Offered within Google Apps for Education – if your district has chosen
    - Accounts for each student & teacher
    - Security the district determines, allows students to collaborate within district domain but not outside
  + Requires Google account
  + No downloads – all online
* Primary Pad (<http://primarypad.com/>) or Will You Type With Me (<http://willyou.typewith.me/>)
  + Create documents collaboratively in real time
  + Invite others to participate, each participant gets a color
  + Timeslider allows you to review the creation of the document
  + Import
  + Export to HTML, Plain Text, Microsoft Word, PDF, OpenDocument
  + No registration
* Wikispaces (<http://www.wikispaces.com>)
  + Web page (set of pages) the may be created, edited, and revised by multiple users
  + Owner of the wiki determines access for others
  + May contain text, documents, video, images, etc.
  + No downloads – all online
  + Guests can edit without joining if you set the security measures as open
  + Registration required to create a wiki

Mindmaps

* Bubbl.us (<https://bubbl.us/>)
  + Mind maps
  + Exports as an image which can be saved without registering for an account
  + Invite others to collaborate, must register
  + Free version limited to 3 saves sheets (must register to save)
* Mindmeister.com (<http://www.mindmeister.com/>)
  + Mind maps
  + 3 free
  + Requires registration with email account
  + Invite others to collaborate
  + Exporting seems limited in free version
* Mind42.com (requires activation email) (<http://mind42.com/>)
  + Collaborative mindmap in real time
  + Has Skype connection so can start a Skype conversation while in Mind42
  + Exports in various formats
  + Requires registration
  + Full access is free
* Mindomo.com (requires activation email) (<http://www.mindomo.com/>)
  + Collaborative mindmap in real time
  + Requires registration
  + Easily add multimedia to mindmaps
  + 3 maps free
  + Exports

Graphic Organizers/Diagrams

* Exploratree.org.uk (requires fast activation email) (<http://exploratree.org.uk/>)
  + Many varied graphic organizers that are easily customizable
  + Can modify and create then print without registration
  + Registration required to save or invite collaborators
    - Only one collaborator may edit document at a time
* Creately.com( [http://creately.com](http://creately.com/))
  + Collaborative diagramming
  + Free version allows 5 public diagrams with up to 3 collaborators
  + Requires registration
* Gliffy.com ( <http://www.gliffy.com/>)
  + Collaborative diagramming with great templates to start
  + Free version allows 5 public diagrams
  + Requires registration
* Cacoo.com ( <https://cacoo.com/>)
  + Real time collaborating to create diagrams
  + Free version allows up to 25 sheets with 15 users per diagram
  + Requires registration
* Dipity (<http://www.dipity.com/>)
  + Multimedia timeline
  + Registration required to create

Image Tools

* Wordle (<http://www.wordle.net/>)
  + Create word clouds (primarily from pasted text)
  + The size of a word in a word cloud is determined by its frequency within the text entered
  + Enter text by cutting and pasting, or enter the URL of a web site
  + Change the font, layout, and color
  + Difficult to save – must take a screen shot (print screen) and past into a document to save or print to pdf
  + WARNING – Gallery can be inappropriate
  + No downloads – all online
  + No registration
* Tagxedo (<http://www.tagxedo.com/>)
  + Create word clouds from pasted text, twitter ID, delicious ID, URL, etc.
  + Choose the shape of the word cloud or upload image
  + Change the color, theme, font, orientation, layout
  + History option allows you to go back to previous versions
  + Word options allow choices for punctuation, numbers, common words, & related words
  + Save as image or get an embed code
  + Must install Microsoft Silverlight which is similar to Flash
  + No registration
* Aviary (<http://www.aviary.com/>)
  + Online photo editing
  + No registration required

Video Tools

* Zamzar (<http://zamzar.com/>)
  + Converts files or videos into usable formats – Convert YouTube videos into wmv files to use in the classroom
  + No downloads for the converter to work, sends you email with link so you can download video and save it
  + No registration required, but must have email for the file to be sent to you
* Animoto (<http://animoto.com>)
  + Creates videos from images you upload to music you select.
  + Basic account is free. Allows 30 second videos, not downloadable, but housed on web. Can purchase full-length videos for $3 each.
  + Educator account is free and provides all access level features.
  + All Access account is $30/year (which is pretty good). Allows unlimited full-length videos that you can download.
  + No downloads unless you choose to download created videos
  + Registration required
* Jing (<http://www.techsmith.com/jing/>)
  + Screencapture/Screencast – take a picture or video of what’s happening on your computer screen
  + Share your screencast online (flickr, twitter, facebook, screencast.com)
  + Free: 5 minute video max, no editing
  + Download required
* Screencast-O-Matic (<http://www.screencast-o-matic.com/>)
  + Screencast – creat a video of what’s happening on your computer screen
  + NO download
  + Free: 15 minute video max, no editing
  + Saves and exports
  + No registration

Website Tools

* Weebly (<http://www.weebly.com/> or <http://education.weebly.com>)
  + Website builder
  + Free version
    - 2 sites max
    - unlimited pages and storage space
    - limit of 5 MB per file upload
  + Registration required

Math and Science Resources

* Khan Academy (<http://www.khanacademy.org/>)
  + 10 minute tutorials primarily focused on math and science
  + New practice tools and performance tracking
  + No download
  + No registration required
* WolframAlpha (<http://www.wolframalpha.com/>)
  + Computation tool
  + Will provide answer and how to solve variety of equations and problems
  + Provides general computational information about a variety of topics
  + No download
  + No registration required (simply a type of search engine)
* Math Train TV (<http://www.mathtrain.tv/>)
  + Math tutorials by students
  + No download
* Learning 4 Mastery (<http://learning4mastery.com/index.html>)
  + Secondary science videos
  + No download

Connecting

Skype (<http://www.skype.com>)

* + A phone on your computer
  + Multiple connections for voice
  + Computer to computer video call
  + Share your desktop
  + Chat capabilities
  + Download required
  + Registration required
* Google Chat (<http://www.google.com/talk/>)
  + Very similar to Skype
  + Google account required

Personal/Professional Learning

* Twitter ([www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com))
  + Connect with others using only 140 characters at a time.
  + No download
  + # (hashtag) – used to categorize/tag posts to facilitate conversation
    - #gtchat – noon and 6 pm CST every Friday, global discussion on gifted education moderated by @DeborahMersino
  + Carefully choose who to follow
    - @DeborahMersino – moderator of #gtchat
    - @Cybraryman1 – librarian with tons of great edtech ideas and GT knowledge
    - @teachagiftedkid – GT teacher in the Houston area
    - @Dazzlld and @Frazzlld – GT advocates in Ireland
    - @ljconrad
    - @GiftedHF – posts links to lots of great articles (gifted and homeschool)
    - @LesLinks – GT consultant in Ireland posts lots of links to resources
    - I’m @atxteacher
  + Try an application to help you manage the information
    - Hootsuite.com – download onto your computer, has columns that lets you track different discussions as you choose (my favorite) – blocked in RRISD
    - Tweetchat.com – use this to participate in #gtchat, allows you to watch the conversation and participate more fluidly than Twitter
  + Consider reading a short article or two about Twitter
    - Edu-Tweeting: Twitter – An Introduction for Teachers (<http://headthoughts.co.za/2010/11/edutweet/>)
    - Tweeting with Your Twitter Community: How to Participate in a Twitter Chat (<http://bit.ly/r4pGra>)
    - Twitter for teachers: What is Twitter and why should teachers care? (<http://slidesha.re/oXk10D>) nice overview of Twitter, but a bit long
    - Twitter in Plain English by Common Craft (video on YouTube) (<http://bit.ly/qhL37T> ) really good explanation of Twitter but from a social perspective
* Google Reader (<http://www.google.com/> choose more and select Reader)
  + Aggregates blogs and updates to websites that you choose
  + Mark those you want to keep or share
  + Similar to a personalized newspaper
  + Blogs to consider reading
    - Byrdseed Gifted (<http://www.byrdseed.com/>) by Ian Byrd
    - Unwrapping the Gifted (<http://blogs.edweek.org/teachers/unwrapping_the_gifted/>) by Tamara Fisher
    - Gifted Exchange (<http://giftedexchange.blogspot.com/>) by Laura Vanderkam
    - Ingeniosus (<http://www.ingeniosus.net/blog>) by Deborah Mersino
* Video Resources
  + Ted Talks (<http://www.ted.com/>)
    - Talks by experts in a variety of areas world-wide
    - Downloadable directly into iTunes on your computer
    - Available through YouTube: TED Talks Channel (<http://www.youtube.com/user/tedtalksdirector?blend=1&ob=4>)
  + RSA: 21st Century Enlightenment
    - Similar to TED, talks by experts in a variety of areas world-wide
    - Available free through iTunes
    - Available through YouTube: RSA Channel (<http://www.youtube.com/user/theRSAorg>)
    - RSA Animate have a cartoonists animating lectures - you watch animation while your hear the lecture
  + Sir Ken Robinson
    - Videos of his presentations are available on YouTube from both TED and RSA
      * Bring on the learning revolution (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9LelXa3U_I>)
      * Do schools kill creativity? (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iG9CE55wbtY>)
      * Changing Education Paradigms (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDZFcDGpL4U>)
    - Promotes educational reform, values creativity and talent development
* Learning the Tools
  + Library 2 Play: 23 Things (<http://library2play.blogspot.com/>)
    - Blog professional development course
    - Developed in Library and Information Services Dept. at Spring Branch ISD
    - Blogging, Photos & Images, RSS & Newsreaders, Tagging, Wikis & Rollyo, Online Applications & Tools, Videos Podcasts & Nings
  + Library 2 Play 2: 11.5 More Things (<http://library2play2.blogspot.com/>)
    - Blog professional development course
    - Developed in Library and Information Services Dept. at Spring Branch ISD
    - Wordle, Wordshift, Glogster, VoiceThread, Animoto, Voki, Bookr, Skype, YouTube, TeacherTube, Twitter, Facebook, Tinychat, TodaysMeet, I-Touch Apps, Hulu, Screen capture, Sharing, Virtual Worlds, Digital Citizenship
  + Teachers as Technology Trailblazers (<http://trailblazers.wikispaces.com/>)
    - Wiki with tons of resources on web 2.0 tools